From: Bowman, Randal

To: Swift, Heather; Downey Magallanes; James Cason

Subject: Monument review generated record number of comments for regs.gov on Monday

Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:55:44 PM

FYI - the number of comments on the monument review coming in to <u>regs.gov</u> on Monday, 105,467, was a record for one-day submissions, and it broke the system.

Although it was freezing up in the morning, as I reported on Monday, it later started generating duplicate records. As a result, the number of comments shown is too high, they believe by up to 8,000. The regs/gov staff are withdrawing the duplicated comments - luckily, the system also generated identical tracking numbers for the original and duplicated records. As they go forward, they are also finding some instances of 2 comments in one record, so their computer seems to have gone off track in two directions at once.

However, the <u>regs.gov</u> staff believe no matter how those end up being resolved, we will have record, and our expert, Marsha Cash from FWS, says she has never seen anything close to 100,000 comments posted on one day. By contract, the NOAA docket on marine monuments and national marine sanctuaries, open since June 26, has 8,286 total comments.